

## Tennessee Pollution Prevention Partnership Success Story



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## Water Reuse Saves Resources

### The Member

Volvo Penta offers complete drive systems and service for leisure boats, workboats and industrial applications. By supplying technologically superior products focused on performance, reliability and environmental characteristics, Volvo Penta has developed a global leadership and is one of the industry's strongest brands. Better performance or better environment? Volvo Penta customers don't have to choose. They get both because our new engines are not only faster, stronger and more efficient than before but are also better for the environment. That's just the way we work. Every year we invest in new technology that boosts the performance of our products while also reducing the impact on the environment. Environmental care in all operations is an integral part of Volvo Penta's commitment to customers and end users, employees and the community. That's why all our operations are in accordance with ISO 14001 standards.

### The Story

We use a series of dip tanks to clean parts prior to coating. The dip tanks are successively less dirty as the parts go down the line so that the last tank is the cleanest. We also sprayed make-up water into the last few tanks so that there is a steady supply of clean water. This caused the tanks to overflow and that water was routed to

the drain system. On examining this process, we decided there was a tremendous opportunity to save quite a bit of water in this process.

### The Success

Since the last stages were the cleanest, it was decided to reroute the overflow from the last tank, #12, back along the dip tank line to tank #10. We also realized that we were spraying far more water than was necessary to provide make-up water. A timing system was installed so that spraying was conducted only when parts were being dipped. Since the rerouting of overflow from the drain system back into the process and the installation of a timing system to negate unnecessary spraying, Volvo Penta of Lexington has realized a huge water savings. We are saving 1 gallon per operating minute for both tanks.

### The Pollution Prevented

By rerouting the overflow from the last tank, Volvo Penta now prevents 240,000 gallons of fresh water per year from going to the drain.

July 2008